energizing the electroconductive film[,] in an atmosphere comprising [in which] a gas for promoting cohesion of the electroconductive film [exists].

2. (Amended) A method for producing an electron-emitting device including a plurality of electrodes and [comprising] an electroconductive film having an electron-emitting region, said film extending between the plurality of electrodes, wherein [a step of forming said electron-emitting region in the electroconductive film comprises a step of] the electron-emitting region is formed by the steps of:

providing an electroconductive film; and

energizing the electroconductive film while heating the [electroconductive] film[,] in an atmosphere comprising [in which] a gas for promoting cohesion of the electroconductive film [exists].

4. (Amended) The method according to Claim 1 or 2, wherein the gas for promoting [the] cohesion of the electroconductive film is [either one selected from] H_2, CO [and] or CH_4.

14. (Twice Amended) A method for producing an electron source having a plurality of electron-emitting devices, [wherein said electron-emitting devices are produced by the methods as set forth in either Claims 1 or 2] comprising the steps of:

forming a plurality of electron-emitting devices by a method including the steps of:

heating an electroconductive film; and

energizing the electroconductive film in an atmosphere comprising a gas for promoting cohesion of the electroconductive film; and

assembling the plurality of electron-emitting devices into an electron source.

15. (Twice Amended) A method for producing an image-forming apparatus comprising (a) an electron source having a plurality of electron-emitting devices and (b) an image-forming member for forming an image under irradiation of electrons from the electron source, the method comprising the steps of [wherein said electron-emitting devices are produced by the methods as set for in either Claim 1 or 2]:

forming a plurality of electron-emitting devices by a method including the steps of:

heating an electroconductive film; and

energizing the electroconductive film in an atmosphere comprising a gas for promoting cohesion of the electroconductive film;

assembling the plurality of electron-emitting devices into an electron source; and

incorporating the electron source into an image-forming apparatus.

Please add new Claims 16 and 17, as follows:

--16. A method for producing an electron source having a plurality of electron-emitting devices, comprising the steps of:

forming a plurality of electron-emitting devices by a method comprising the steps of:

providing an electroconductive film; and

energizing the electroconductive film, while heating the film, in an atmosphere comprising a gas for promoting cohesion of the electroconductive film; and

assembling the plurality of electron-emitting devices into an electron source.

17. A method for producing an image-forming apparatus comprising (a) an electron source having a plurality of electron-emitting devices and (b) an image-forming member for forming an image under irradiation of electrons from the electron source, comprising the steps of:

forming a plurality of electron-emitting devices by a method including the steps of:

providing an electroconductive film; and

energizing the electroconductive film, while heating the film, in an atmosphere comprising a gas for promoting cohesion of the electroconductive film;

assembling the plurality of electron-emitting devices into an electron source; and

incorporating the electron source into an image-forming apparatus.--

REMARKS

Claims 1 through 17 are pending. Claims 1, 2 and 14 through 17 are independent.

Claims 1, 2, 4, 14 and 15 have been amended to improve their form under U.S. Patent practice. In particular, Claims 14 and 15 have been amended to improve